MIDNIGHT SUNS
MARVEL
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SACKS
ZAGARIA
FABELA

ONLY UNITED CAN THE NEW TEAM OF **MIDNIGHT SUNS** HOPE TO STAND AGAINST THE COMING DARKNESS. MAGIC USERS ACROSS THE WORLD WERE AFFLICTED BY A TERRIBLE VISION PROPHESIZING A COMING APOCALYPSE INVOLVING **ZOE LAVEAU**. **AGATHA HARKNESS** AND ZOE MANAGED TO ESCAPE A VANGUARD OF EVIL SPIRITS FROM THE VISION AS WELL AS **DOCTOR DOOM**, BUT HOW CAN THEY HOPE TO PREVENT THE END OF THE WORLD WHILE ON THE RUN?! AND **CLEA**, THE SORCERER SUPREME, BELIEVING SHE CAN FORESTALL THE COMING CONFLICT BY BANISHING THE SUNS, HAS TELEPORTED **WOLVERINE**, **MAGIK**, **BLADE**, **KUSHALA**, AND **NICO** TO ANOTHER DIMENSION!

MIDNIGHT SUNS

PART 3

"LOST IN THE DARK"

ETHAN SACKS — writer
LUIGI ZAGARIA — artist
ANTONIO FABELA — colorist
VC's JOE SABINO — letterer

DAVID NAKAYAMA — cover artist

INHYUK LEE; SEAMAS GALLAGHER (GAME VARIANT) — variant cover artists

BILL ROSEMANN, PETER ROSAS & ISABEL HSU — special thanks

designer — CARLOS LAO
additional logo design — STACIE ZUCKER
editor — TOM GRONEMAN
supervising editor — NICK LOWE
editor in chief — C.B. CEBULSKI

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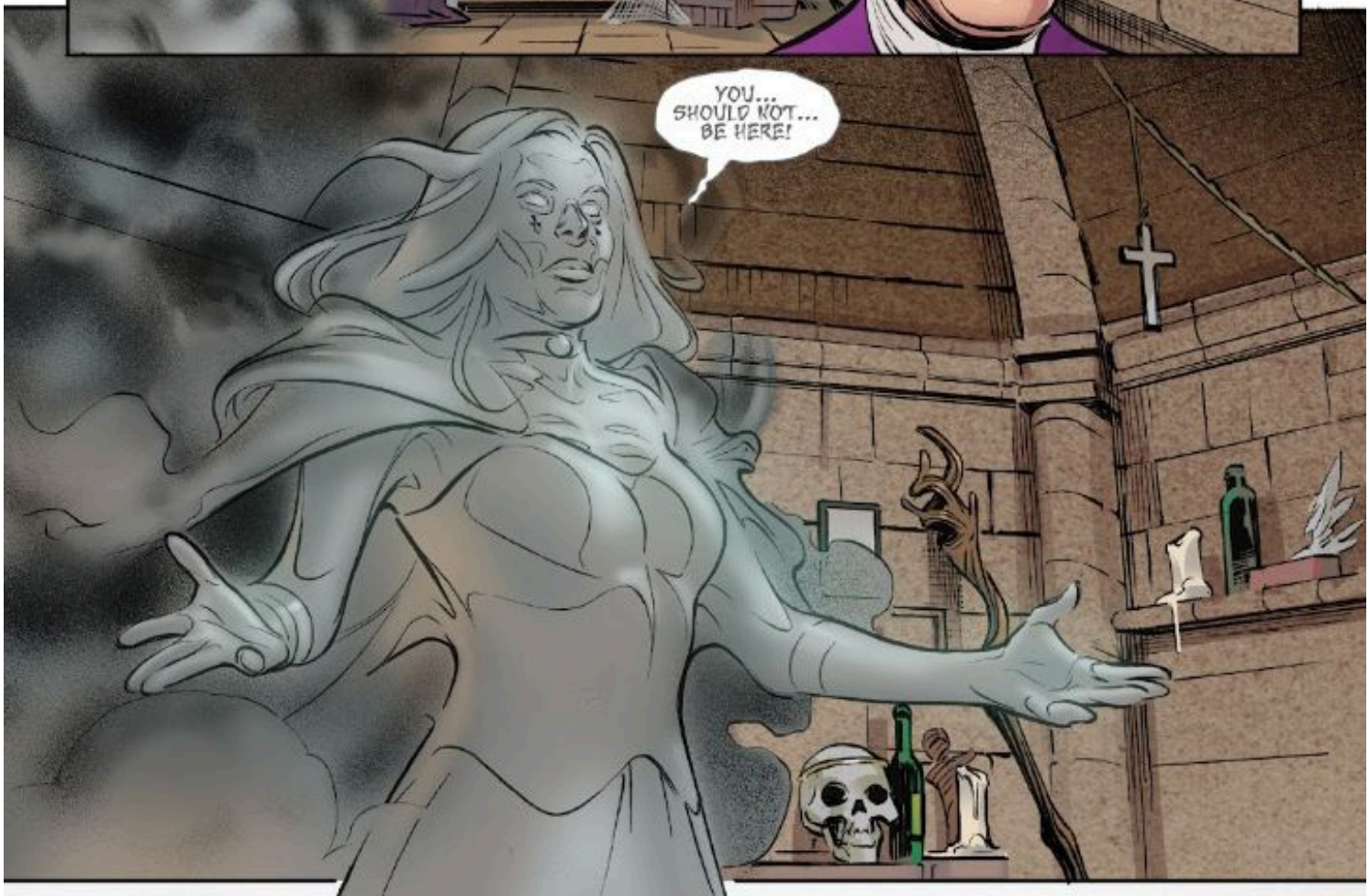
TRANSIA, 1428.
<GOD, PLEASE SAVE US!>*
-HISSSSSS!-
*TRANSLATED FROM OLD TRANSIAN.
HURK!
VALTORR IS YOUR GOD NOW. HE HEARS YOUR PRAYERS--
--AND GRANTS YOU RELEASE FROM ALL SUFFERING.
"WE HAVE TO END THIS! IT'S GONE COMPLETELY--"

--OUT OF CONTROL!
WE HAVE TO SAVE CORINA!
SHE IS GONE--
--HER SACRIFICE IS NECESSARY FOR THE GREATER GOOD.
NO! THIS IS NOT WHAT WE AGREED TO, JACQUETTE!
THE VAPORS OF VALTORR WILL CLEANSE THIS WORLD OF THOSE BORN UNWORTHY AND UNTOUCHED BY MAGICS.
BUT GREAT MAGIC COMES WITH...GREAT COST, AGATHA HARKNESS.
WE ARE LUCKY THE GREAT VALTORR CHOSE THE WEAKEST AMONG US, A BRINGER OF RUIN TO OUR LEGACY.
SHE IS NOT WEAK, LAVEAU! THIS MADNESS ENDS NOW!
KRAKKHHHH
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
THE BLACK MIRROR IS A CONDUIT TO VALTORR'S REALM. DAMAGING IT HAS CUT OFF HIS PROTECTION...
YOU HAVE DOOMED THE COVEN TO CENTURIES OF REAL DARKNESS AT THE HANDS OF CRUEL, SMALL-MINDED MEN.
THEY WILL PERSECUTE US UNCHECKED. WE HAVE LOST EVERYTHING--
--AND YOU HAVE GAINED NOTHING! CORINA IS STILL LOST TO YOU FOREVER.
NO.
"PROFESSOR HARKNESS... ARE YOU LISTENING?"

THE LAVEAU FAMILY CRYPT, NEW ORLEANS.
PROFESSOR HARKNESS...
NOW.
CAN WE DESTROY THE MIRROR...AND GO?
WE'RE AWFULLY CLOSE TO STRANGE ACADEMY...AND EVERYONE WHO'S AFTER US.
BESIDES, SKULKING AROUND MY GRANDMOTHER'S CRYPT GIVES ME THE CREEPS.

WE HAVE TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY.
IF I KNOW THE LAVEAU WOMEN AT ALL... EVEN IN DEATH, THEY ARE--


YOU... SHOULD NOT... BE HERE!

SOMEWHERE AT THE EDGE OF THE DARK DIMENSION.
WE SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE.
I DEFINITELY SHOULDN'T BE HERE.
THE SORCERER SUPREME GOT EXACTLY WHAT SHE WAS HOPING FOR--
--KEEPING US OCCUPIED AWAY FROM OUR WORLD...IN CASE WE HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE APOCALYPSE IN THE VISION.
THERE MAY BE ANOTHER WAY OUT THROUGH THAT PLACE.
WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE, BLADE?
BEEN TO AN EVIL TOWER OR TWO IN MY DAY, NICO.
USUALLY, SOMETHING MAGICAL INSIDE CAN BE OF SOME USE.
THOUGH THAT ONE LOOKS PARTICULARLY... VAMPY.
SKREEEEEEEE
BEING ANYWHERE OTHER THAN OUT IN THE OPEN--

--SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA TO ME.
YEAH, BUT MY POWERS ARE STILL BEING JAMMED BY CLEA'S SPELL... I CAN'T TELEPORT US.
THIS DIMENSION DOES SEEM TO HAVE A DIFFERENT PULL ON MY SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE--
--WHICH MAY WORK TO OUR ADVANTAGE.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?
SKREE
I AM SURE OF ONE THING--

"--THAT THIS IS FASTER THAN WALKING."
NICE, KUSHALA! THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO TRAVEL!
WALKING SEEMS SAFER RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
FWOOSH

THOSE ARROWS ARE BEING FIRED FROM INSIDE THE TOWER!
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS...OR BAT-DRAGON CREATURES...WHATEVER.
HOLD ON!
THERE'RE TOO MANY--
SLICE
CRASHH
FUMP
NNNN... NOT A GREAT LANDING.
BUT I SUPPOSE IT COULD BE WORSE.
MMMMMMPFFFF.

YOU ARE INTRUDING IN THE WRONG TOWER. THE WRONG CORNER OF THE DARK DIMENSSSION.
THE WIZARD BELONGSSS TO USSS, THE CHILDREN OF THE MHURUUK. YOU CANNOT HAVE HIM.
HE SSSSSUSSSTAINS US FOR THE COMING WAR AGAINST CLEA TO TAKE BACK OUR REALM.
BUT YOU... YOU WILL SSSSSERVE US TOO--AS A SSSSNACK!

HOW COULD YOU DO THIS...TO YOUR FAMILY?
I...I... DIDN'T MEANT TO DISRESPECT...
BRINGING OUR...ENEMY... HERE TO THIS SACRED PLACE?
LEAVE THE GIRL ALONE!
WE HAVE NO DESIRE TO DISTURB YOUR SLUMBER, MARIE... WE CAME FOR THE BLACK MIRROR.
YOU WILL NOT SEIZE THAT POWER FOR YOURSELF.
HURK!
I KNOW YOUR SCHEMES... WHAT YOU WANT TO DO...DESTROY--
FZZZ

YOU BIT OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW.
BY THE RAGING SANDS OF ASCOBAR...
AAARGHHH!
WOOOSH
YOU THINK YOUR PARLOR TRICKSSSS CAN KILL KOLVARR?
LET... GO...
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, "KOLVARR"...
WHO DARESSSSS?
YOU'RE A BUNCH OF VAMPIRES--
--WHO ARE DUMB ENOUGH TO LIVE IN A CAVERN FULL OF WOOD.
FOOL! YOU DARE THREATEN THE MIGHTY KOLVARR?
I AM THE SSSSCION OF THE SSSSSPLINTER REALMSSSS. FIRST AMONG THE CHILDREN OF THE MHURUUK. HEIR TO G'URAN THE GREAT--

YOU FORGOT, "LAST OF HIS LINE."
GURRGGGG!
SHUNK
:HISSSSSS!:
KNEW THIS PLACE LOOKED VAMPY.
POP
SUCKS TO BE RIGHT ALL THE TIME.
AAAARRRGHHHH.
THWIFF
ANY TIME...THE REST OF YOU WANT TO JUMP IN...FEEL FREE...

SLASHHH
DON'T MIND IF I DO...
FINALLY SOMETHING I CAN STAB.
AT LEAST MY SWORD STILL WORKS IN THIS PLACE.
WHACK
SURE ARE A LOT OF THESE BLOOD-SUCKERS--
--AND IT'S STARTING TO GET ANNOYING.
WELCOME TO MY WORLD.

I AM GRATEFUL YOU LEFT SOME FOR ME.
THIS ONE APPEARSSSS UNARMED...
APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING.
KOOOOSH
DAMN.
MORE LIKE DAMNED.

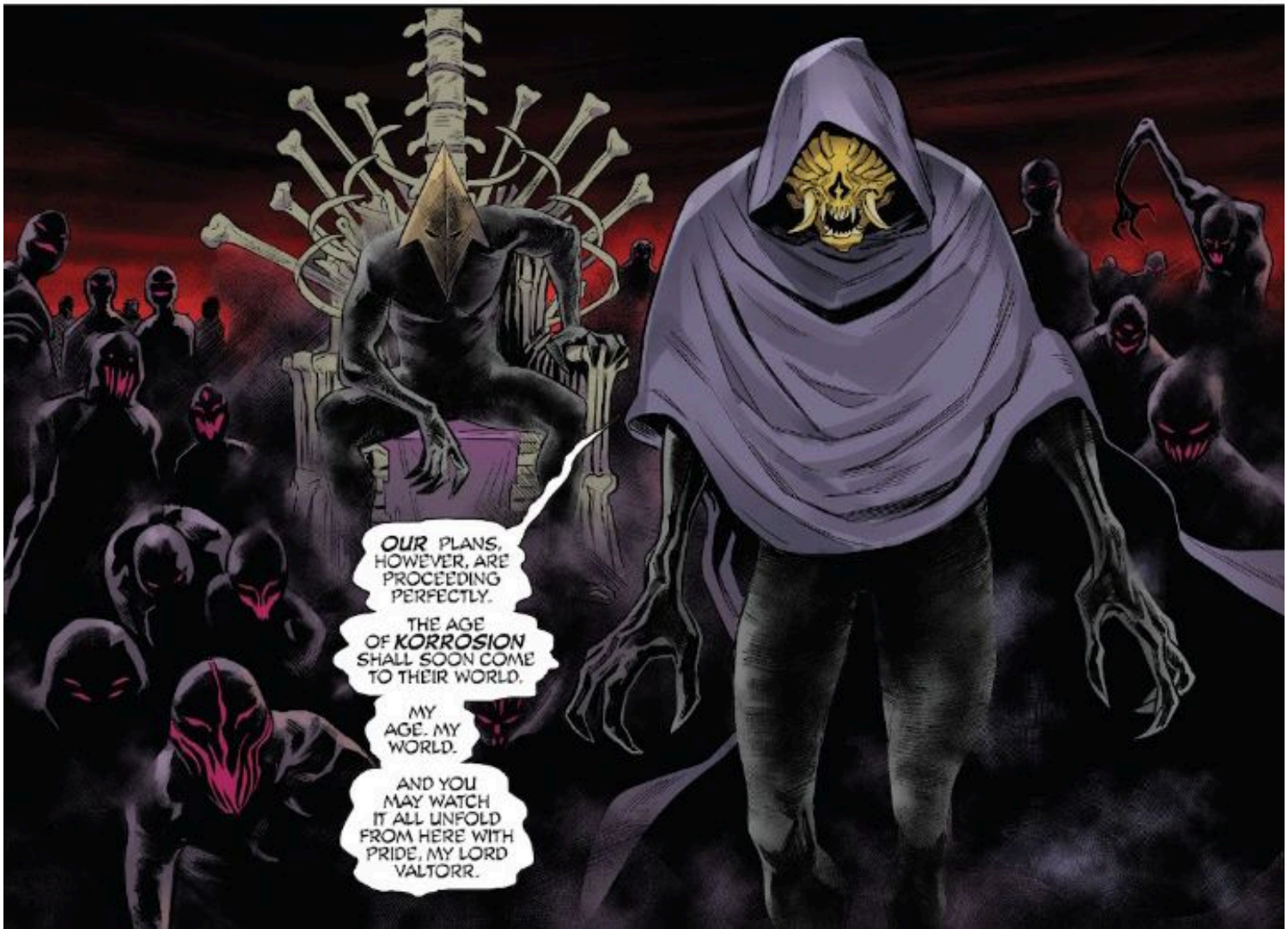
LATER...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE, MAGIK...THANKS TO THE REST OF YOU.
IT'S NOTHING YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DONE FOR ME...OR ANYONE ELSE.
THAT'S JUST IT.
"HAVE DONE." PAST TENSE.
BACK WHEN I HAD THE STAFF OF ONE. BACK WHEN I WASN'T FIGURING IT OUT AS I GO.
YOU'RE BEING TOO HARD ON YOUR--
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHY I AM HERE, MUCH LESS IN THAT VISION.
I'M NOT OF MUCH USE TO THE REST OF YOU RIGHT NOW.
SINCE I SENT MY STAFF INTO SPACE, MY POWERS ARE A FRACTION OF WHAT THEY USED TO BE.
THEN WHY DID YOU JUMP INTO THE FIGHT AT STRANGE ACADEMY? NOBODY WOULD HAVE JUDGED YOU IF YOU DIDN'T.
I WOULD HAVE JUDGED ME.
SEEING ZOE LAVEAU IN THAT APOCALYPTIC DREAM--
"--AND HOW EVERYONE INSTANTLY ASSUMED SHE COULD BE SOME GREAT EVIL...BECAUSE OF THE EVIL THAT RUNS IN HER FAMILY...
"WELL, I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE JUDGED BY A NAME."
YOU PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE TO HELP ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS.
YOU CONTINUE TO PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE TO HELP YOUR FRIENDS.
STAFF OR NO STAFF, YOU STILL SEEM PRETTY MAGICAL TO ME.

WHATEVER IS BEHIND THIS DOOR MUST BE WHAT THE CHILDREN OF THE MHURUUK WERE GUARDING.
THEN LET US NOT WASTE ANY MORE TIME STARING AT IT.
KERANG
UNGH!
I'M NO EXPERT, BUT IT APPEARS TO HAVE SOME MAGICAL PROTECTIONS IN PLACE.
SNIKT
SO LET ME TRY SOMETHING MORE STRAIGHTFORWARD.
CLICK
IT... IT CAN'T BE--

--STARK?!
WELL, NOT YOUR STARK. BUT A TONY STARK.
WHO ELSE BESIDES A STARK...WOULD LOOK THIS GOOD--
--HALF-DEAD AND CHAINED TO A WALL?
ENOUGH ABOUT ME.... HOW ABOUT YOU GET ME DOWN FROM HERE AND AS THE SORCERER SUPREME OF A DIFFERENT REALITY THAN YOURS, I'LL RETURN THE FAVOR.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT WE NEED YOUR HELP?
EVEN OUT HERE, I HAVE SEEN THE VISION OF THE BREAKING OF YOUR WORLD.
WOULD PREFER A STRANGE TO A STARK RIGHT NOW, NO OFFENSE.
CRAK
NONE TAKEN, BUT IF THERE'S ONE THING ALL STARKS ARE GOOD AT...IT'S FIXING THINGS--
--ASSUMING OF COURSE THERE WILL BE SOMETHING LEFT TO FIX.
"THERE, THERE-- EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT, ZOE"

SO, WHAT NOW? HOW DO WE PREVENT THE APOCALYPSE IN THE VISION?
DO WE JUST SHATTER THE MIRROR?
DESTROY... DESTROY THE MIRROR?
YEAH. LIKE YOU SAID WE WOULD.
I WILL MAKE EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT. EVERYTHING--
--EVERYTHING WILL BE AS IT'S MEANT TO BE.
YES... EVERYTHING WILL BE AS IT'S MEANT TO BE, AGATHA HARKNESS.
A NEW AGE FROM THE ASHES OF THE OLD.
THE MIRROR, PROFESSOR HARKNESS. IT MUST BE DESTROYED.

OH, CHILD. THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT CHANGE IN PLANS.
OH, CHILD. THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT CHANGE IN PLANS.


OUR PLANS, HOWEVER, ARE PROCEEDING PERFECTLY.
THE AGE OF KORROSION SHALL SOON COME TO THEIR WORLD.
MY AGE. MY WORLD.
AND YOU MAY WATCH IT ALL UNFOLD FROM HERE WITH PRIDE, MY LORD VALTORR.

ARE YOU ALMOST DONE? YOU'VE BEEN AT THIS FOR HOURS.
ONE CAN'T RUSH PERFECTION.
CLANK CLANK CLANK
BESIDES, TIME MOVES DIFFERENTLY HERE.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE WORRIED ABOUT. LOOMING APOCALYPSE AND ALL.
CLANG
THERE.
THIS WILL DO NICELY.
DO WE REALLY NEED TO WEAR THESE... THINGS? WE SHOULD BE WORKING ON A WAY BACK HOME.
WE ALL SAW THE VAPORS OF VALTORR IN THE VISION... YOUR BEST CHANCE AT AVERTING THIS CRISIS IS TO GO THROUGH HIS REALM AND STOP HIM THERE.
FORTUNATELY, THERE IS A WAY INTO THAT REALM FROM THE DARK DIMENSION.
UNFORTUNATELY, YOU WOULDN'T LAST LONG IN THE CORROSIVE MISTS OF THAT PLACE WITHOUT PROTECTION.
SO, YES, YOU HAVE TO WEAR THESE THINGS TO SAVE YOUR WORLD.
BUT, JUST AS IMPORTANTLY--

--THEY LOOK DAMN GOOD ON YOU.
TO BE CONTINUED!